



## Inside The Voice



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photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Staff Sgt. Bryan Harte, electronics warfare systems repair, Company A, 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion, inserts a blasting cap into the firing wire spool of an M18A1 Claymore mine firing system. Harte and Spc. Franklin Pipes, standard installation and division personnel system (SIDPERS) clerk, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th MI Brigade, have been named the 704th MI Brigade NCO and Soldier of the Year.

# Brigade announces Harte, Pipes 704th NCO, Soldier of the Year

by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt  
Editor, *The Voice*

**L**ock and load. You are about to take the Army Physical Fitness Test. What field manual covers Drill and Ceremonies? That's what five soldiers from the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade endured as they competed for the 704th MI Brigade Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year competition, yet only one soldier and one NCO

would emerge victorious.

Staff Sgt. Bryan Harte, electronic warfare systems repair, Company A, 742nd MI Battalion, and Spc. Franklin Pipes, brigade standard installation and division personnel system (SIDPERS) clerk, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th MI Brigade, emerged from the two-day competition as the 704th MI Brigade NCO and Soldier of the Year for Fiscal Year 2003.

The battle for the title was fierce for Harte and Pipes. Also,

competing for the titles were: Sgt. Heather George, Ultimate (ULTIMA), Fort George G. Meade, Md. and the 704th MI Brigade NCO of the first quarter. In addition, she won Fort Meade's NCO of the Year for Fiscal Year 2003; Sgt. Maria Negron, Fort Meade and 704th MI Brigade NCO of the third quarter; and Spc. Eric Josephson, 704th MI Brigade Soldier of the Quarter for the fourth quarter.

The first day of competition — (go to Harte, Pipes, page 12)



# Chief of Staff Shinseki farewell message

For 38 years, I have been privileged to serve as an American soldier – there has been no greater honor. For the last four years, I have served you as your Chief of Staff.

Today, nearly 370,000 of you are on point for the Nation in more than 120 countries around the globe. You are decisively fighting our Nation’s wars, keeping the peace in places important to us, and preserving the freedom and privileges we all enjoy. You are the best soldiers in the world, the most respected Army in the world, and the most feared ground force to those who would threaten the interests of the United States. On your broad shoulders, you carry the hopes of our Nation, and your spirit is indomitable. You do not waiver; you do not flinch; and you never quit, no matter how difficult the mission.

All of us know that we do not soldier alone. Again and again, I have seen the tremendous courage that resides among our families. They sacrifice for us so that we can serve; they support us through the most challenging days; they patiently wait

for us when we are deployed; and they enable each of us to remain focused on the difficult missions at hand. I am particularly grateful for their unyielding devotion and constant support in the difficult months since our Nation was attacked on Sept. 11 – their strength and generosity is an inspiration to us all. Our Army families are inextricably linked to our readiness.

I am so very proud of each of you – soldier, civilian, veteran, retiree and all of your families. Typical of your 228-year legacy, you have accomplished more than I could have ever asked.

In less than four years – while fighting the global war on terrorism and Operation Iraqi Freedom – you have dramatically improved the well-being of our people; preserved the warfighting readiness of our legacy force; fielded the first of our six stryker brigade combat teams; and put into place the frameworks that will allow the 35th Chief of Staff to achieve irreversible momentum in transformation.

Your accomplishments are too



courtesy photo  
Former U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki salutes the flag as he marches past a color guard composed of soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry, the Old Guard, during Shinseki's retirement ceremony held June 11, 2003, on Fort Myer, Va.

great and too numerous to recite. But because of all of your efforts, your uncompromising excellence in leadership, and your perseverance, we will see the Objective Force fielded before the end of this decade. You always take your objective.

As I stand at my final formation and in the years ahead, you will remain in my prayers that God will grant his tender mercies upon you and keep you safe. God bless you and your families, our magnificent Army, and our great Nation.



## Brigade inducts nine sergeants

Nine non-commissioned officers were inducted into the NCO Corps at a ceremony held at McGill Hall on Fort George G. Meade, Md., July 2.

Pictured from left are, Sgt. Timothy Shipley, Sgt. Heather Scouten, Sgt. Nancy Schmidt, Sgt. Reginald Newsom, Sgt. Nathan Nealy, Sgt. Christina Jackson, Sgt. Inna Gutierrez, Sgt. Heather Cervantes and Sgt. Ron Blair (photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt).



The Voice is published for 704th MI Brigade soldiers like: Sgt. Maria Negron Company C, 741st MI Battalion.



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The 704th Military Intelligence Brigade's mission is to conduct continuous full-spectrum signals intelligence, computer network and information security operations directly, and through NSA to satisfy National, Joint, Combined and Army information superiority requirements.

It's focus is to ensure mission accomplishment in an ethical environment while providing opportunities for individual professional growth and satisfaction, we must have:

- Competent and caring leaders,
- Well trained and fit soldiers,
- Efficient, effective unit operations,
- Unit cohesion and pride,
- Planned, orderly growth and change.



# We are Here and Everywhere

## Temperatures, soldiers soar around Brigade



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

## HHC, Big Dogs triumph at guidon race

Capt. Raul Rivas, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, takes the opening heat of the guidon race as the “Big Dogs,” cloaked in their new company shirts, cheer their commander on. The race was held after the brigade run on June 6 and it pitted HHC, 741st MI Battalion and 742nd MI Battalion against each other. HHC went on to claim victory of the race.

## 741st Bravo, Charlie change Top position



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

1st Sgt. Calvin Dawson has assumed responsibility of first sergeant duties for Company B, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion. Dawson assumed responsibility, June

19, from 1st Sgt. Joyce Wooten at a ceremony held inside the 741st MI Battalion dayroom on Fort George G. Meade, Md. Wooten was honored for her faithful years of service with a retirement ceremony immediately following the change of responsibility ceremony.

1st Sgt. Quintin Royster has assumed responsibility of first sergeant duties for Company C, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion. Royster assumed responsibility, June 18, from 1st Sgt. Xavier Walker at a ceremony held on Fort George G. Meade, Md. Walker was honored for his years of service to the Nation with a retirement ceremony immediately following the change of responsibility ceremony.



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

## HHC soldiers stop to smell the tear gas



photos by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Sgt. Charles Martinez, pictured above, nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) noncommissioned officer in charge for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, tests the seal of a HHC soldier’s mask before the soldier enters the gas chamber at Training Area C on Fort George G. Meade, Md., June 5.

More than 150 HHC soldiers went through the NBC training, which taught them everything they wanted to know about NBC. The training culminated with a walk through the gas chamber testing the soldier’s confidence in their NBC equipment.

Sgt. Christopher Rudy, pictured right, found he was so well trained and confident that going through the gas chamber made him drool and hungry for more.

## Justice Served

### UCMJ action around 704th

- The following are the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) actions within the 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade from May 27 through June 26.
- A specialist in Headquarters and Operations Company, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion, received a company grade Article 15 for the following violation of Article 86: Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty. The soldier received forfeiture of \$600 and oral reprimand.
  - A sergeant in HOC, 742<sup>nd</sup> MI Battalion, received a field grade Article 15 for the following violation of Article 92: Failure to Obey Order. The soldier received a reduction to E-4 and forfeiture of \$912 pay (both suspended until Nov. 18, 2003), extra duty for 30 days and oral reprimand.
  - A specialist in Company B, 742<sup>nd</sup> MI Battalion, received a summarized Article 15 for the following violation of Article 86: Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty. The soldier received extra duty for 14 days, restriction for 14 days and oral reprimand.
  - A private first class in HOC, 743<sup>rd</sup> MI Battalion, previously received Article 15 for the following violation of Article 86: Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty. The soldier’s suspended reduction to E-2 and restriction for 14 days is being vacated.
  - A private first class in HOC, 742<sup>nd</sup> MI Battalion, previously received an Article 15 for the following violation of Article 86: Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty. The soldier’s suspended punishment of \$336 pay is being vacated.
  - A specialist in HOC, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion, received a company grade Article 15 for the following violation of Article 134: Adultery. Soldier received a reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$356 in pay (suspended until Aug. 17, 2003), extra duty for 14 days and oral reprimand.
  - A private first class in Company C, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion, received a field grade Article 15 for the following violation of Article 111: Drunken operation of a vehicle. The soldier received a reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$645 pay, extra duty for 30 days and restriction to the limits of the 9800 area for 30 days.
  - A sergeant in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade, received a company grade Article 15 for the following violation of Article 86: Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty. The soldier received extra duty for 14 days and oral reprimand.
  - A private first class in Company B, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion, received a summarized Article 15 for the following violation of Article 86: Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty. The soldier received extra duty for 14 days, restriction for 14 days and oral reprimand.
  - A specialist in Company B, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion, received a summarized Article 15 for the following violation of Article 92: Failure to Obey Order. The soldier received extra duty for 14 days, restriction for 14 days and oral reprimand.

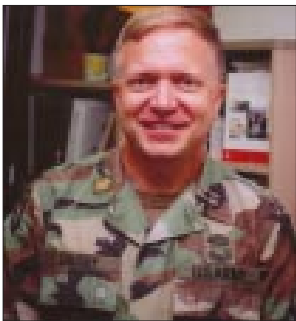




# Chaplain’s Corner: We have what it takes

by Maj. David Causey  
Brigade Chaplain

Paul didn’t stand a chance. That’s what most people thought. A poor student, stupid, dyslexic, frequently expelled from school, and already several grades behind the kids with whom he started – yes, everyone seemed convinced that Paul Orfalea didn’t stand a chance.



His mother believed in him. Even though one junior high school administrator told her, “Maybe he can enroll in a trade school and learn to lay carpet.” Paul’s dad believed in him, too, even though the kids called him “Kinko,” because of his curly hair.

Finally came graduation day. Paul managed to graduate with a “D” average. Paul did manage to

get through the University of Southern California, but showed the same lack of aptitude and promise. The destiny as a common laborer seemed inevitable for Paul “Kinko” Orfalea.

But Paul didn’t lay carpet, or work as a truck driver, or slave as a garbage collector. In 1970, Paul started a small copy shop at an old hamburger stand. From that humble beginning, he turned a goofy nickname into an internationally known chain of stores. By the year 2000, Paul Orfalea, at the age of fifty-two, stepped down from his position as CEO of Kinko’s. With a personal worth in excess of \$225 million, and with 856 stores and 23,000 employees in his portfolio, Paul “Kinko” Orfalea represents the power of encouraging parents and the refusal to accept defeat. Orfalea dismissed his dyslexia, and says to everyone: “God gave you an advantage, so work with your strengths.”

We all have weaknesses. Don’t focus on them. Focus on your strengths and use them, with God’s help, to fulfill your destiny. Saint Paul declared: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)

## 704<sup>th</sup> Unit Ministry Team at Fort Meade “The God Squad”

Chaplain (Maj.) David Causey (301) 677-7513  
Spc. Robert Apger (301) 677-7521  
Bldg. 9828, Rm. 152

### Protestant Worship Service

Cavalry Chapel, Corner of 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry & Simmons  
Sundays, 10:45 a.m.

Bible Study, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

Pastor: Chaplain (Maj.) Dave Causey

### 743<sup>rd</sup> MI at Buckley Air Force Base

#### 743rd On-Site Chaplain

Chaplain (MAJ) Bruce Kite (303) 677-6411  
Mod #1, Bldg. #T-10 & Rm. 1356-A in ADF

#### Religious Services

##### Protestant

Sunday Bible Study, 9 a.m. in Mod#1, Bldg. #T-10

Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. in Mod #1, Bldg. #T-10

Singles Wednesday Bible Study, 5 p.m. in

Mod#1 Bldg. #T-10

Wednesday Bible Study in ADF, 6 p.m. in ADF

Conference Room C

Seekers “Brown Bag” Bible Study

Every Wednesday at noon in Mod #1, Bldg. #T-10

##### Catholic

Saturday Confession, 2:30 p.m.

in MOD #1, Bldg. #T-10

Saturday Mass, 3 p.m. in MOD #1, Bldg. #T-10

#### Visit us at:

<http://m704sqls.ftmeade.army.mil/704/704Chaplain/>

or for unrestricted visit us at:

<http://chaplaincausey.tripod.com/>

#### Activities

##### 704th Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

at the 741st MI Battalion Conference Room

Free Anthony’s Pizza and Soft Drinks

#### Spiritual Fitness Training - Orioles vs. Yankees

Friday, Aug. 15 at Camden Yard Stadium

No cost to soldiers and family members

#### Family Fitness Training - Hershey Park

Thursday, Sept. 4 at Hershey, Pa.

No cost to soldiers and family members



## Sinking down the River

*Soldiers of the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion and their raft appear to be swamped during their recent Chaplain’s Rafting Trip down the mighty Arkansas River. The Arkansas proved to be mighty, indeed. Frequent rains and heavy melt off from the Rocky Mountains raised the river many times above its normal level. The result? All but one of the group’s seven rafts flipped and most of the 743rd soldiers spent time swimming. Glowing reports came from all participating 743rd soldiers that this was one of the best trips they’ve ever experienced (courtesy photo).*

# Enjoy summer: Take measures to combat heat injuries

by Axel Gonzalez  
Brigade Safety Officer

With the summer upon us, heat injuries become a significant health threat, but they are preventable. Climate, intensity of an activity and fitness levels are three variables that interact causing heat injuries. All soldiers must be able to identify heat injury hazards and take the appropriate action to reduce or eliminate them.

A heat injury occurs when a person loses excessive fluids through sweating and fails to adequately replenish water and salt. The risk increases with the use of heavy clothing and intense prolonged activity. Also, soldiers who are not acclimatized to hot environments are at a higher risk.

Leaders can take the following steps to prevent heat injuries:

- Determine the heat category in the immediate vicinity of the activity, measuring the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) each hour.

- Enforce appropriate water intake and work/rest cycles for the measured heat category.

- Modify the intensity of the activity and the duty uniform to decrease the risk.

Plan carefully, when possible, for any events involving sequential days of high performance training such as road marches and change of



commands. Many preventable heat injuries occur in conjunction with these activities. Allow for adequate train-up conditioning and plan adequate time for fluid replenishment, rest and recovery.

Review evacuation plans to include an accurate

estimate of the time required to evacuate a heat casualty from the field.

Leaders must also be aware heat injuries can be prevented by insuring soldiers limit the following activities:

- Alcohol increases dehydration.
- Drugs and supplements such as Ephedra and Ma Huang have been shown to make healthy young people more susceptible to heat injuries. Also, cold and allergy remedies can increase the risk of heat injuries.

- Salt tablets are unnecessary. Encourage soldiers to eat regular meals to replace salt.

- Drinking more than one-and-one-half quarts of water per hour robs the body of essential minerals and can cause a heat injury.

Remember, the weather in Maryland is very unpredictable. Soldiers need time to adjust to the heat. Gradually increasing work in the heat allows for a safe adaptation to hot climates and full acclimatization can take up to two weeks. But the most important way to prevent a heat injury is to simply watch your battle buddy while working outdoors during the hottest part of the day.

# Reenlisting: In spite of retention moderation

by Sgt. 1st Class Willene Orr  
*Brigade Reenlistment*

First, let me say thanks to the command teams throughout this great brigade. Your efforts in retaining highly skilled and motivated soldiers are a true testament to the quality of leadership and professionalism each of you possess. Because of your dedication and commitment to uphold values and traditions, soldiers are following in your footsteps and making the choice to continue their military service in spite of recent Department of the Army Retention moderation changes.

As stated in Army Regulation 601-280, “Success is a direct indicator of the quality of leadership exhibited by commanders, officers and noncommissioned officers.” Measurements of success include, but are not limited to, achieving the commander’s retention missions with the fewest number of waivers, exceptions to policy and ‘movement type’ options, while improving readiness, competency and alignment of the force.

Because of your dedication, our soldiers are making concrete, educated career choices allowing them and their families to be postured for financial stability and continued success throughout their military career.

Many may be wondering what actually is retention moderation? Due to the Army’s continued ability to project the congressionally mandated strength of a 480,000 soldier force by the end of Fiscal Year 2003, certain changes have been imposed for reenlisting, which mainly affect mid-career soldiers.

Soldiers who have reenlisted at least once or who are on second or subsequent enlistments are classified as mid-career. Prior to retention moderation, mid-career soldiers were afforded the opportunity to reenlist for the following options:

- Option E-1 – Regular Army (reenlist for two to six years).
- Option E-2 – Current station stabilization (reenlist for two to six years).
- Option E-4 – Overseas assignment (reenlist



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt  
Spc. Michael Boddie, information systems operator/analyst, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, is congratulated by Capt. Raul Rivas, commander of HHC, on Boddie’s three-year reenlistment. Boddie received stabilization for one-year, two four-day passes, one-semester of school, retention excellence coin, and a luncheon hosted by the brigade command sergeant major.

- for four to six years).
- Option E-5 – Continental U.S. station of choice (reenlist for three to six years).
  - Option E-6 – Overseas assignment with return – Korea only (reenlist three to six years).
- After retention moderation was implemented, only the options listed below are currently available for mid-career soldiers:
- Option E-1 – Regular Army (reenlist for two to six years).
  - Option E-2 – Current station stabilization (reenlist for three to six years).
  - Option E-3 – Army training if in a overstrength Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) (reenlist three to six years).
  - Option E-6 – Overseas assignment with return – Korea only (reenlist three to six years).

In spite of changes, soldiers in this brigade are still reenlisting. Soldiers can choose from a myriad of incentives throughout the brigade. Soldiers who reenlist for Option E-2 – current station stabilization - can receive one or two semesters of college depending on the number of years and the time-frame in which they reenlist.

Several have reenlisted for this option and have had the privilege of transferring within the brigade to work special missions at Detachment Meade and other specialized sections within the command and the National Security Agency.

Also, several have reenlisted to be assigned to several of the Crypto logic Support Groups (CSGs) within the brigade, to include locations such as Fort McPherson, Ga., MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., and Southern Command nestled in Miami, just to name a few. In addition, soldiers with the special skill sets of signal intelligence analyst (98C), electronic intelligence interceptor/analyst (98J) and signal collection/identification analyst (98K) have also been afforded the opportunity to go to special units such as Detachment A in Australia. The list is endless.

In short, I highly encourage all soldiers to reenlist now and not later. The options and bonuses currently available will remain throughout this Fiscal Year, unless DA Retention imposes any future moderations. All soldiers are advised to see their respective career counselors for the most recent and up-to-date information on retention. Soldiers can also visit the brigade re-up web-page on the 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade Intranet.

A word to the wise, “Every purpose is established by counsel. Hear counsel and receive instruction, so you may be wiser in the end. Where there is no counsel, people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.” See your career counselor today.

The brigade command retention team extends sincere thanks to Lt. Col. Diana Raynor, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion, for being a major catalyst in reviving the Command Retention Program. We wish you much success in your future assignments and Godspeed.

If you have a special article pertaining to a reenlistment, whether from a soldier or spouse perspective, please forward to Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Willene Orr at [orrw@meade-704.army.mil](mailto:orrw@meade-704.army.mil).

As always, “It’s an honor...it’s an honor to serve.”

## 704th MI Brigade Career Counselors

### 704th MI Brigade

Sgt. 1st Class (P) Willene Orr  
(301) 677-0164

### 741st MI Battalion



Staff Sgt. Joseph Collins, Jr.  
(301) 677-0157


### 742nd MI Battalion

Staff Sgt. Latisha R. Holmes  
(301) 677-0117

### 743rd MI Battalion

Staff Sgt. Shelly R. Demetrelis  
(303) 677-5048


**Brigade Retention**




**Employee Benefits:**

- Brigade Coins of Excellence
- Brigade Retention Luncheon
- Reenlistment Promotional Items
- School Option for 1 or 2 semesters
- Honorable Service to Army and Nation
- 4 -Day Pass on behalf of Commanders
- Best Corporate Benefits – Bar NONE!

**704th Military Intelligence Brigade**  
**Here and Everywhere**  
See your Career Counselor Today



**An Army of One**  
**704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade Retention**

**Reup Now...not LATER!**

**Bonuses**

- Cap remains at \$20,000.00 except for 31S - \$30,000.00/98G KP - \$40,000.00
- No increase for remainder of FY 2003

**Options**

- Initial termers receive all options as prescribed in AR 601-280 provided all qualifications are met
- Mid-career receive Regular Army, Current Station and Overseas (Korea only); if MOS is overstrength, only Army Training available

**Reserve Component**

- Option to choose your unit or go where the IRR needs you most







photos by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Staff Sgt. Amy Brinker, brigade intelligence noncommissioned officer in charge, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, gets ready to whack the softball at the 704th MI Brigade Organization Day softball championship game at Burba Lake on Fort George G. Meade, Md., June 6. HHC went on to win the game 18 to 13 against a tough 742nd MI Battalion team. In addition, HHC went on to capture the Commander's Cup as overall winner of the week long competition.

# O'Day brings brigade together for fun, competition



Pictured from left to right from the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade command group are: Lt. Col. Anthony Wenger, deputy commander; Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Wilson, command sergeant major; and Col. Marcus Kuiper, commander, as they take their turn serving patrons a host of barbeque delights at the 704th MI Brigade Organization Day festivities.



Capt. Jennifer Chapman, commander, Company C, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion gets dunked in the dunk tank by her loyal soldiers.



Sgt. Thomas Williamson, brigade operations noncommissioned officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, pulls with all his might in a tough match of tug of war during the 704th MI Brigade Organization Day festivities at Burba Lake on Fort George G. Meade, Md., June 6. HHC won the tug of war competition in a hard fought battle against teams throughout the brigade.



# Owens takes “First to Know” battalion

by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt  
Editor, The Voice

Under blue skies on a warm Maryland summer morning, Lt. Col. John T. Owens, former Combined Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) signal intelligence officer for Operation Iraqi Freedom, took command of the 741st Military Intelligence Battalion, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade, at a change of command ceremony held at McGlachlin Parade Field on Fort George G. Meade, Md., June 26.

Owens takes command from outgoing commander Lt. Col. Diana Raynor, who is scheduled to assume duties at the Pentagon. “Only the best and most qualified officers are entrusted with a battalion command,” said Col. Marcus A. Kuiper, commander, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade. “They are the cream of the crop.”

“Lt. Col. Owens has demonstrated that he is ready to be a battalion commander. He has worn muddy boots, he’s technically and tactically proficient and he’s had blood on his hands,” continued Kuiper. “I expect him to raise the standards of this battalion even higher.”

Owens began his military career in 1985 when he completed the Military Officers Basic Course and was assigned to Cooke Barracks in Coppingen, Germany, serving as a battalion security officer and company executive officer for the 299<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Battalion.

After his tour of duty in Germany, Owens attended the Military Intelligence Officers Advanced Course and the Signals Intelligence Staff Officer Course at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Afterwards, Owens was assigned with the 107<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion out of Fort Ord, Calif., where he deployed to Fort Sherman, Panama, serving as a company team commander for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade and the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Light) in support of Operation Just Cause.

In 1993, Owens attended the Junior Officer



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Col. Marcus Kuiper, commander, 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade, passes the 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion guidon and command to Lt. Col. John Owens at the 741st MI Battalion change of command ceremony held at McGlachlin Parade Field on Fort George G. Meade, Md., June 26. Owens takes command from Lt. Col. Diana Raynor, who is scheduled to serve at the Pentagon.

Career Cryptologic Program (JOCCP) at Fort Meade, and upon graduation attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort

Leavenworth, Kan.

Owens was then sent back to Germany where he served in Heidelberg as the operations officer for United States Army Europe (USAREUR). Later he transferred to the 66<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion where he assumed duties as the 527<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion executive officer.

Upon return to the United States, Owens was assigned to Fort Meade where he served as the director’s fellow in the Office of the Director for the National Security Agency/ Central Security Service. Following his fellowship, he was assigned to the Army Cryptologic Operations (ACO) office as the chief of staff.

Owens’ awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal (third award); Army Commendation Medal (second award); Army Achievement Medal (second award); the Parachutist Badge; and the Air Assault Badge.

“I would not be here today if it wasn’t for all the civilians, soldiers and officers that have supported me throughout my military career,” said Owens.

Owens joins the 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion with his wife, Andrea, and their two daughters.



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

From left, Lt. Col. Diana Raynor, outgoing commander, Col. Marcus Kuiper, commander, 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade, and Lt. Col. John Owens, incoming commander of the 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion salute to honor the Nation at the 741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion change of command ceremony held at McGlachlin Parade Field on Fort George G. Meade, Md., June 26.



## Around the Army

# Pacific soldiers train with Thai counterparts

UTAPAO NAVAL AIR STATION, Thailand (Army News Service) – More than 7,000 Pacific-based military service members deployed to Thailand to strengthen the ties between the Royal Thai armed forces and all four branches of the U.S. military.

Cobra Gold 2003 is the annual joint exercise taking place. The 25th Infantry Division (Light) and the U.S. Army Hawaii deployed over 1,700 soldiers and pocket-size elements from Fort Richardson, Alaska, will focus on peace enforcement operations.

There are two main training events for the exercise. The first is the combined training that includes hands on jungle survival, weapons cross training and aircraft static load training.

During the jungle survival training, American soldiers watched as their Royal Thai counterparts skinned lizard's alive, cooked rats, and killed a chicken by breaking its neck and drinking its blood as a source of hydration.

An infantryman from Hawaii took part in the training and killed his first chicken.

"I respect his willingness to be outgoing and to build good relations with the Thai army by doing that," said Pvt. Christian Punt, an infantryman from Hawaii about his comrade. "At the same time, I think he's a little crazy."

The second major event was a simulation driven Command Post Exercise where division staff members command units on a virtual battlefield.

"The division and Thai staffs learn from each other on command post operations and the military decision making process," said Maj. Norman



photo by Sgt. Monica R. Garreau

*Soldiers in the Royal Thai army demonstrate how to catch a cobra for American soldiers during Cobra Gold 2003. More than 7,000 American service members participated in the joint exercise.*

Spears, exercise chief from 25<sup>th</sup> ID (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

"The sort of peace enforcement and peacekeeping scenarios at the heart of Cobra Gold's CPX are off the front pages of today's papers," Spears said. "The humanitarian and media elements, which have received heavy coverage in Iraq, were an integral part of the Cobra Gold scenario last year and will be again this year."

Although the major training events will involve the infantry and division staff, the support units will also receive quite a bit of training as well.

"This exercise provides constructive benefits to the people of Thailand through combined U.S. and Thai medical and civil affairs projects. As an example, engineer units will work at three construction sites to improve local schools and a child development center," Spears said.

## Iraqi war dog to retire with Special Forces handler

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) – An Iraqi-born German shepherd, who put his life on the line to guard U.S. Special Forces, escaped euthanasia and will soon travel to the United States to retire.

Sgt. 1st Class Russell Joyce, the Special Forces soldier from Fort Bragg, N.C., nursed the malnourished and abused dog from northern Iraq back to health and trained him. The dog guarded Special Forces soldiers who accomplished missions like taking control of Maqlub Mountain, and removing the last of Mosul's defenses.

Upon arriving back to Fort Bragg, Joyce frantically sent out two e-mails to friends and family asking for help to get the faithful guard dog, Fluffy, shipped to the United States.

Those e-mails somehow traveled through cyberspace and reached numerous war dog associations and members of congress, who are lobbying to get Fluffy a ticket to the States.

An Air Force Squadron at Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq, is currently taking care of Fluffy. However, as soon as the Department of Agriculture and the Office of the Secretary of Defense approves Fluffy's flight, he will begin



courtesy photo

*Fluffy is an Iraqi-born German shepherd, who guarded Special Forces while they served in Iraq. Eventually, he will travel to the States to retire as a military working dog.*

his journey to the states, officials said. Approval is practically guaranteed as agencies from the Department of Defense, Army, Air Force and the consultant to the Army surgeon general for Veterinary Clinical Medicine scurry to expedite Fluffy's retirement.

Fluffy's fate was first in question

May 11. He wasn't allowed to board the homeward-bound plane with the Special Forces soldiers.

"We purchased him from the Kurds to perform military operations, but the officer in charge of loading said that since he didn't originate in the States, and wasn't on orders, he was not authorized to travel to the U.S.," Joyce said.

"Myself, and other people on my team, tried to explain that an Army veterinarian said Fluffy was fit for travel, and that I had the proper paperwork to prove it."

Joyce left Fluffy with an Air Force K-9 unit, but he was told that the unit could only hold onto the shepherd for 72 hours.

"As his handler, I grew attached to him, but the reason I really wanted to see him in the States was because he supported us the whole time we were in Iraq," Joyce said.

"He walked guard with every American soldier in our compound, all night long. He chased stray dogs away. He never ran at the sound of bullets, and we were safe because he was there," Joyce said. "He was a deterrer, and that's an immeasurable success."

Fluffy joined Joyce's team with visible scars on his head and legs,

weighing about 31 pounds and missing his front two bottom teeth. The full-breed shepherd spent his first night with the Special Forces so scared that he didn't move, Joyce said.

The soldiers only had two weeks to prepare Fluffy for duty, but he impressed the team by catching onto the commands very quickly and warming up to his new owners. He was trained to guard and be a pursuit dog. Upon release from his handler, he could chase and bring down a perpetrator.

"There's no dog food in Iraq," Joyce said. "So we all shared our food with him, and fed him out of the palm of our hands. He was never aggressive toward us, and his first name, Tariq Aziz, was not befitting of his character."

Tariq Aziz is the name of Saddam Hussein's foreign minister and is the eight of spades in the Iraqi leaders most wanted deck of cards. Aziz was the longest serving member of Hussein's regime, but was captured April 25.

"I wanted a name for him that wasn't too macho, and didn't have so many syllables," Joyce said. "The first thing that came to mind was Fluffy, and eventually everyone started calling him by that name."



Around the Army

# U.S. Forces Korea to start major realignment next year

## 2nd ID to move 15 northern bases south of Han River

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) - The Army will be moving from bases located near the Demilitarized Zone and the South Korean capital to “hubs” further south, and that massive shift could start as early as next year, according to a joint document released by the South Korean and U.S. governments.

The move is a sweeping change of policy, according to some reports in the media last week. They say it’s a change from the current policy which has used the 14,000 soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division and 7,000 soldiers stationed at Yongson Army Garrison in Seoul as a de-facto trip wire to guarantee U.S. involvement to help defend South Korea from a potential invasion from the north for the last 50 years.

“This is a time to move beyond outmoded concepts or catch phrases such as the term ‘tripwire,’” said Paul Wolfowitz, the deputy U.S. defense secretary, in Seoul.

Although no time line for the move has been established, said Lt. Col. Steve Boylan, U.S. Eighth Army public affairs officer in an e-mail interview, the move south and opening of newer facilities will take years and doesn’t mean the alliance between South Korea and America is flagging.

“We are committed to the alliance and will not weaken that alliance by these plans,” Boylan said.

He went on to say that there will be no immediate affect to the soldiers currently stationed in Korea or those that are being assigned to 8th Army units in the near future.

North and South Korea signed a ceasefire in July 1953, but they are still technically at war. Most of North Korea’s 1.1-million man army and South Korea’s 650,000-man army are located near the 2.5 - mile-wide DMZ that separates the two countries.

The 2nd Infantry Division at 15 bases north of South Korea’s Han River and just south of the DMZ will be the major unit moved south of the Han River in two phases that will take place over the next few years, the statement said.

About 6,000 of the 7,000 soldiers stationed at the U.S. Forces, Korea

Headquarters at Yongsan Army Garrison, and located in downtown Seoul, Korea, will also move south, the statement said.

The first phase of the move will probably start as early as this year when the 2nd Infantry Division moves from those 15 bases to camps Red Cloud and Casey.

After the South Korean government procures land south of the Han River next year, the division and the Yongson Garrison will move to major “hubs” south of the river that also bisects Seoul, the statement said. The land now used by the Army will be handed over to the South Koreans at that point.

The U.S. has also offered to pay about \$220 million for the new facilities, said Boylan.

Moving those forces south wasn’t the only thing discussed by the two governments. The U.S. government is also planning “a substantial” investment of \$11 billion over the next four years on 150 projects to upgrade the combined defenses of South Korea, the statement said.

That money will go toward upgrading the Army’s Patriot

missile battalion on the peninsula to the newer PAC-3 capability, fielding of unmanned aerial vehicles and the upgrading of the 3rd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Brigade to fly the Army’s most advanced Apache helicopter, the AH-64D Apache Longbow, Boylan said.

South Korea officials also said it would upgrade its “military capabilities to strengthen the Alliance” and that the two countries would proceed with an “implementation plan for the transfer of certain missions.”

Some South Korean officials initially resisted the move earlier this year saying it would give North Korea the impression of the U.S. pulling out of the peninsula. They agreed to the move after guarantees that the U.S. will still maintain a presence north of the Han through training at the Korea Training Center, located near Camp Casey.

The two governments worked out the details of the plan in two meetings and during Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz’s visit.



### Army advocates in-state tuition for military families

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — The Georgia Board of Regents listened when the Army started informally asking all states in February to consider favorable in-state college tuition policies for soldiers and their family members.

Georgia changed its in-state tuition rules in late May to mirror the Army’s desire for soldiers and their family members to have in-state tuition eligibility both in their state of legal residence and the state where the soldier is assigned, and continuity of that eligibility once established.

In addition to Georgia, there are currently 15 other states the Army considers to be soldier-friendly in meeting its in-state tuition desire, said Mike Tevnan, an education specialist at the Total Army Personnel Command. Those states include Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee and Utah.

Tevnan related the contents of an e-mail he got in the past year from a master sergeant with a legal residence of Florida, who was stationed in Texas when his child started college with in-state tuition rates there and then was assigned to a post in Georgia. The daughter lost in-state eligibility when her father moved. When investigating her moving to a Georgia college, the sergeant learned that his daughter would not be able to transfer all the college course credits she earned in Texas.

Texas has since moved to conform its in-state eligibility rules as its legislative body has just incorporated soldier-friendly changes into a formal bill. That bill now awaits Gov. Rick Perry’s signature before becoming law.

Last November’s Army Family Action Plan identified the financial hardship placed upon military families due to varying in-state college tuition rules as those families are required to move from state to state due to military reassignment as its number one issue. The delta, or difference, between average annual in-state and out-of-state tuition costs ranges from \$3,000 to more than \$17,000, according to Tevnan’s research.

For example, the difference between average in-state and out-of-state tuition in North Carolina is \$17,921.

The delta can often make the difference between a soldier being able to afford sending a family member to college or not, said Patty Shinseki, wife of Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki and host of the annual Army Family Action Plan meeting for the past four years. Soldiers and their families shouldn’t be penalized by virtue of the many moves their service to the nation often requires, she said.

Army officials are prohibited by law from lobbying — in other words, leaders cannot call up lawmakers or their staffs and tell them what the Army wants whenever they feel like it. Army officials can, however, respond to queries from those lawmakers and staffs about what the Army is interested in and talk about the issue through established normal lines of communication between lawmakers and the Army. It can also use its civilian aides to the secretary of the Army to let legislators know military favorable in-state tuition rules are important to the Army.

While most states meet at least two of the Army’s criteria, Tevnan said, seven have policies that are considered unfavorable to the military. Those states are Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, South Dakota, Vermont and Virginia.

Information about how each state rates with what the Army desires for in-state tuition eligibility for soldiers and family members can be found on the Army Education Homepage, go to [www.armyeducation.army.mil](http://www.armyeducation.army.mil).



Around Town

‘Heroes Salute’ offers military free day of fun

by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt  
Editor, The Voice

Are you looking for a day filled with dozens of mind-boggling rollercoasters and attractions, authentic restaurants and shops from around Europe, or a magical play area catered for children? Or are you just looking for a place to hang out with family and friends?

Deemed “Heroes Salute,” Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Va., is offering free admission tickets to all active duty military personnel and free admission for as many as four of the military members direct dependents. The promotion is going on now until Nov. 11, 2003.

Here’s how it works. You get up early in the morning and you drive about three-hours from Fort George G Meade, Md., down to Williamsburg. Hopefully it’s not raining. You get to the theme park and you pay \$7 for parking. You take a tram from any of the parking lots named after different countries in Europe. I parked in Italy. When you get to the front of the park, there are signs everywhere pointing military members over to a white tent dubbed “Heroes Salute.” You fill out a one page form and hand the form and your military identification over to a Busch Gardens cast member. The cast member inputs your information in the computer and gives you your ticket, your family members’ tickets and your identification. You enter the front gate and enjoy a theme park loaded with attractions, rollercoasters, shopping and restaurants. It’s that simple and it’s free.

To get to Busch Gardens from Fort Meade, take Interstate 95 South towards Richmond, Va. Then hit 295 South for about 50 miles until you get to Interstate 64 East. Take Interstate 64 East until you get to exit 242 B. Follow State Route 199 for one-quarter-of-a-mile until you get to the entrance of Busch Gardens.

The park is open at 10 a.m. daily, but closing times vary. If you plan a trip, check out the website at [www.buschgardens.com/buschgardens/va/default.aspx](http://www.buschgardens.com/buschgardens/va/default.aspx) to see what time the park closes or if you would like more information on the park itself.



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Morgan (right) and Kylie Dougherty of Fort George G. Meade, Md., enjoy a day at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Va. The theme park is offering free tickets to military personnel and their families.



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Busch Gardens is offering free admission to all active duty military and up to four of their direct dependents until Nov. 11, 2003 with their “Heroes Salute” promotion. Simply go to any Busch Gardens theme park, fill out a one-page form, show your military identification and you’re in for free.

Military promotions offered throughout U.S.

Universal-Orlando

May 12 through Dec. 19, 2003

Free five-day pass for active duty military, Reservist and National Guard. The pass is valid for Universal Studios and Island of Adventure. Military ID must be presented to the front gate admissions. Additional family and friends of up to five people can purchase the pass at a 50% discount of \$49.95 plus tax. Dependent spouses with military ID may purchase this pass if the active member is still overseas. For more information, call (407) 363-8000 or visit the website at [www.universolorlando.com](http://www.universolorlando.com).

Disneyland/Calif., Adventure

May 12 through Dec. 19, 2003

Free three-day ticket good for admission to both Disneyland and Disney’s California Adventure parks. Tickets during the offer period for up to five family members or friends for \$39 each. For details, visit the website at [www.disneyland.com/military](http://www.disneyland.com/military).

Disney World, Fla.

May 12 through Dec. 19, 2003

Free five-day ticket good for admission into the Walt Disney World theme parks, two Disney water parks and Pleasure Island. During the offer period, active military personnel may also purchase this same ticket for \$49.95, plus tax, for up to five family members or friends. For details, visit [www.disneyland.com/military](http://www.disneyland.com/military).

Disneyland Resort Hotels, Calif., and Fla.

May 12 through Dec. 19, 2003

Offers room rates for active military personnel at a 40% savings per night. For details, go to [www.disneyland.com/military](http://www.disneyland.com/military) or call (714) 956-6424.

Universal - Portofino Bay Hotel, Orlando, Fla.

May 13 through Dec. 19, 2003

Offers a 40% discount with military ID. For reservations call (800) 292-7827.

Universal - Hard Rock Hotel, Orlando, Fla.

Aug. 17 through Dec. 19, 2003

Offers a 40% discount with military ID. For reservations

call (800) 292-7827.

Universal - Royal Pacific Resort, Orlando, Fla.

Aug. 17 through Dec. 19, 2003

Offers a 40% discount with military ID. For reservations call (800) 292-7827.

Days Inn/Tampa North - Busch Gardens/Adventure Island

Aug. 17 through Dec. 19, 2003

Offers 40% off regular prices at hotel. Includes free breakfast and Busch Gardens tickets. Kids under 12 stay for free. For reservations call (866) 895-6584 or go to [www.the.daysinn.com/tampa05280](http://www.the.daysinn.com/tampa05280).

Ramada - Orlando, Fla.

Offers a military rate of \$45, plus tax. For reservations call (800) 327-1363 or go to [www.ramadaorlando.com](http://www.ramadaorlando.com).

Holiday Inn - Orlando, Fla.

April 28 through Aug. 30, 2003

Offers a \$55 rate, plus tax, for two adults. Ask for the MIL 55 rate. To make reservations call (800) 366-5437.

Disney Cruises

June 19 through Dec. 18, 2003

Offers a seven-night cruise vacation to eastern and western Caribbean, and three and four night cruises to the Bahamas. On select sailings from June 29 through Aug. 24, rates start at \$379 for a three-night cruise, \$429 for a four-night cruise and \$799 for a seven-night cruise. On select sailings from Aug. 28 through Dec. 18, 2003, rates start at \$349 for three-nights, \$399 for four-nights and \$599 for seven-nights. For more information call (888) 325-2500.

U.S. Airways

April 21 through Dec. 31, 2003 (must travel by Feb. 12, 2004)

Offers rates as low as \$79 each way, based on roundtrip purchase. Fares must be purchased roundtrip and are available for destinations across the U.S. Airways system, including Europe, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. For more information contact the commercial travel office on post.



# Mind Scramblers . . . State Plates: Welcome

to the license plate trivia quiz. It's tough. Even tougher than you might think. Sorry about that. Anyway, just follow the directions and fill in the blanks. Each of the 50 states will be used exactly once. And to make it reasonable, you can consider yourself victorious if you get at least 30 correct answers. Even 20 correct should count as a moral victory. So, hit the road Jack (Answers in August edition of the Voice).

## Sloganeering

The license plate is an arena for states to showcase their unique personalities, often in the form of slogans, many of which involve the word "State." Name the state whose license plates contain the following phrases:

1. Show-Me-State
2. Green Mountain State
3. Bluegrass State
4. Ocean State
5. The First State
6. The Silver State
7. The Natural State
8. Peach Garden State
9. Constitution State
10. Evergreen State

## A picture is worth...

Sometimes images speak louder than words. No, wait, those are actions. Images are pretty darn quiet. Name the state whose license plates depict the following flora, fauna and assorted miscellanea:

11. a peach
12. a palmetto tree
13. Mount Rushmore
14. a cactus
15. a rainbow
16. a Douglas fir
17. a stalk of wheat
18. a maganolia flower
19. a figure riding a buckin' bronco
20. a farm scene in front of a city skyline's outline
21. Chimney Rock and a city skyline's outline

## State-Shaped Dividers

22. What state just released a new plate with a silhouette of the state separating the serial's 3 letters from its 4 numbers?

There are three other states currently issuing plates with state-shaped dividers. Which one...

23. ...borders the Atlantic?
24. ...borders Canada?
25. ...borders Mexico?



## Sloganeering II

Try these slogans on for size:

26. Famous Potatoes
27. America's Dairyland
28. Big Sky
29. Live Free or Die
30. Land of Lincoln
31. Native America
32. The Spirit of America
33. Heart of Dixie
34. First in Flight
35. Birthplace of Aviation
36. Sportsman's Paradise
37. Greatest Snow on Earth
38. Wild, Wonderful
39. Vacationland

## Random Trivia

What state ...

40. ...has places featuring the URL of the state's website?
41. ...has plates depicting the Sun Symbol of the Indians of Zia Pueblo?
42. ...has an optional-issue plate depicting the Mackinac Bridge?
43. ...had plates featuring a Kodiak bear from 1976 to 1982?
44. ...released a plate in 1976 commemorating its centennial?
45. ...released a plate in 1996 commemorating its bicentennial?
46. ...over the years, released plates with the slogans Wander, Back Home Again and Amber Waves of Grain?

## Environmental Issues

States sometime release special issue plates, with the money going to particular causes. Name the state that has released plates for environmental causes containing the following words:

47. Yosemite National Park
48. Save the Manatee
49. Treasure the Chesapeake
50. Friend of the Chesapeake



## Upcoming BOSS Events

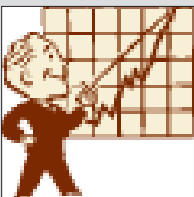


### Feed the Homeless

Last Monday of every month, Aug. 25. Meet at 4217 Roberts Ave. at 5:30 p.m. Estimated time back is 9 p.m.

### New York City

Sept. 27 and 28  
Overnight trip to NYC, includes Broadway show, tour, shopping and other group activities.



### BOSS Meetings

The Fort Meade BOSS meets every other Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m., 4217 Roberts Ave. on the third floor.

For more information on the BOSS program contact the 704th MI Brigade representative, Pfc. Rebecca Johnson, at (301)677-0745

# 742nd Change of Command

A Change of Command Ceremony is scheduled for the 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th MI Brigade, on McGlachlin Parade Field at Fort George G. Meade, Md., Aug. 1, 2003, at 9 a.m.

Incoming commander Lt. Col. Lisa C. Bennett, currently serving as the deputy commander for the 116th MI Group, is scheduled to assume command of the battalion while outgoing commander Lt. Col. Stephen G. Stewart is scheduled to assume duties at the Pentagon on the staff of the Secretary of Defense.

For more information, contact the battalion adjutant, Capt. Ivan Palacios, at (301) 677-0082.

# You're Big News

Just got promoted? Won soldier of the month? Just graduated from a school or have you been anywhere interesting lately? Let you family and friends back home know what you're accomplishing. Stop by the 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade Public Affairs Office and fill out a Hometown News Release Form (DD2266) or simply drop the completed form by the PAO office. It's fast and it's simple. If you have any questions, contact Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt at (301) 677-0173.

## June Mind Scrambler answers

### You Know, You Know

1. Hearts
2. One, Lincoln
3. Up and Left
4. Counter clock-wise
5. Inward
6. Left
7. The whip
8. Alexander Hamilton
9. Five
10. No
11. The dot
12. Hypertext Transfer Protocol
13. 28
14. 28

### X-Cues Me!

1. 1,498 X 2 = Table #2996
2. 15,345 / 11 = Table #1395
3. 5,139 - 811 = Table #4328
4. 4,158 + 12 = Table #4170



# Harte, Pipes... from page 1

began in the early morning hours of June 6. The day's events included an APFT, M16A2 qualification, land navigation course, common task testing (CTT) and a 50-question written exam.

"Each soldier receives points for each event today and the points are added to their total board points," said 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. William Bach, first sergeant, HHC. "The second day of the competition is the NCO and Soldier of the Year board."

First event for the day, the APFT, consisting of two minutes of push-ups, two minutes of sit-ups and a two-mile run. After a quick shower and a bite to eat, the soldiers were shuttled out to Training Area C on Fort Meade for the weapons qualification. But, today qualifying was different. The board winners were not just trying to qualify; they were trying to score points.

"I only missed once on the weapons qualification, which scored me 39 out of 40," said Harte.

Up next for the crew was the land navigation course, though, this time it was a little different once again.

"There will be a two-hour time limit on the land navigation course and you have to find five points," said Bach. "If you're not back in two-hours, even one-minute late, you will lose one of the points you've already found, so you have to decide if it gets close whether you want to try and find that last point or head on back."

"I got four points, but I just don't know. The points were really far apart," said Pipes. "I had one point, which was only about 40-meters away from the last point. Then the next point was over 1,000-meters away."

The fourth task of the day was

CTT. The soldiers were tested on employ an M18A1 Claymore mine, prevent shock, decontaminate yourself and equipment using decontamination kits, perform CPR and protect yourself from Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) attack by going to Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) four.

"CTT points are given for each individual task, but unlike regular CTT testing you won't get a 'no-go' if you miss one part of the testing," said Staff Sgt. Thea Ray, platoon sergeant, Reception and Holding Platoon, HHC. "You'll just get points for tasks you complete."

To complete the day, the weary soldiers were shuttled back to the brigade area and they took a 50-question written test on general military knowledge. The questions on the test consisted of military history, awards and weapons.

"There were 50-questions on the test, and I got 30 right," said Pipes. "I was proud of that, because they were really hard questions."

Afterwards, the brigade's best had the weekend to study and worry about the board coming their way Monday morning.

"I studied between operational assignments and reviewed doctrine and my knowledge of doctrine was what got me through it. The person who I would like to thank the most is my wife, who is an Air Force NCO. She helped me study," said Harte.

"The reason I competed for NCO of the Year is because I wanted to set the example for my soldiers," added Harte. "I wanted 742<sup>nd</sup> to participate at the NCO of the Year and the boards to come."

"It's hard and the boards are nerve racking, but after the board is



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Spc. Franklin Pipes, standard installation and division personnel system (SIDPERS) clerk, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, uses his compass to find a point at the Fort George G. Meade, Md., Land Navigation Course. Pipes captured Soldier of the Year honors for the 704th MI Brigade for Fiscal Year 2003.

over it's a good feeling whether you win or lose," said Pipes.

What's next for Harte and Pipes? They will compete at the regionals against other brigade NCO and Soldiers of the Year from brigades on

the east coast assigned to the Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM). If they win at the regionals, they compete for the INSCOM NCO and Soldier of the Year.

## 704th Military Intelligence Brigade

### Vision Statement

Be the premier Army team providing full-spectrum signals intelligence and operational support to warfighters and national command authorities **"HERE AND EVERYWHERE."**

